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Medicine and Science in History #150.813 A Survey of Historiography
Department of History of Medicine, Spring 2010
Wednesday 1-3, Seminar Room

This course is a seminar and your active participation in class discussion is expected. For every session, you will write a response (max. 3 pages) to the week's readings. You will also write a research paper (max. 15 pages) on a subject selected among the course topics and approved by the instructors. Your paper topic, with preliminary bibliography, should be notified to the instructors on our last meeting before the Spring Vacation, on March 8. You're encouraged to come and consult us about your choice of topic. We'll gladly provide help with your bibliographical research. The research paper will be due two weeks after the last day of class, April 28, during reading period, by noon May 12.

POSSIBLE PROJECTS:

1) Writing a historiographic essay.

a) Select a topic among those examined in the course, on a subject of special interest to you, or related to your dissertation project. Research and discuss how historians have studied (or not studied) this topic in a specific time period and context. The essay can also be on a historiographic gap, if you see one, or on a shift in historiographic perspective that has changed earlier consensus among historians.

b) Select a historical journal in a specific time period and examine a debate within it, on a topic that is relevant to your own research interest, in the light of contemporary historiographic trends.

2) Writing a historiographic profile.

Select a historian you've already read (at least in part) and try to place her or him in historiographic perspective and context. The autobiographical essays "A Life in Learning", for instance, by several distinguished historians (to be found online on the website of the American Council of Learned Societies) provide a suggestive and useful primary source. It may be helpful to think of this option as a means to acquire better understanding of a historian whose publications relate to your own research area, or whose style of historical argument you find interesting and stimulating.

REQUIRED BOOKS:

1. Georg Iggers and G. Edward Wang, *A Global History of Modern Historiography*, Harlow: Pearson, 2008. (To be read over holidays)
2. Anthony Grafton, *The Footnote: A curious history*, Cambridge: Harvard Univ. Press, 1997.
3. Felix Gilbert, *History: Politics or Culture? Reflections on Ranke and Burckhardt* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990.
4. Peter Burke, *The French Historical Revolution: The Annales School 1929-89*, Stanford, CA: Stanford Univ. Press, 1990.
5. Georg Iggers, *Historiography in the Twentieth Century: From Scientific Objectivity to the Postmodern Challenge*, Wesleyan University Press, 1997.
6. Ludwik Fleck, *Genesis and Development of a Scientific Fact* (originally pub. 1935) Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979.
7. Cristina Chimisso, *Writing the History of the Mind. Philosophy and Science in France 1900 to 1960s*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 2008.
8. Peter Burke, *What is Cultural History?* Cambridge: Polity, 2004.
9. Jan Golinski, *Making Natural Knowledge: Constructivism and the History of Science*, Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2005, 2nd ed.
10. Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine* (New York: Zone Books, 1999).
11. Joyce Appleby, Hunt, Jacob, *Telling the Truth About History*, New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1994.

SCHEDULE OF READINGS

Week 1. January 27. Introductory.

A Global Perspective on the History of Historiography.

(Please note that this book will be discussed during the first class)

* Georg Iggers and G. Edward Wang, *A Global History of Modern Historiography*, (Harlow: Pearson, 2008) chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8.

Week 2. February 1.

Roots of Historical Scholarship: from antiquarianism to history.

* Arnaldo Momigliano, *The Classical Foundations of Modern Historiography*, (Berkeley University of California Press, 1991) pp. 5-79, chapters:

- 1: Persian Historiography, Greek Historiography and Jewish Historiography;
- 2: The Herodotean and the Thucydidean Tradition;
- 3: The Rise of Antiquarian Research.

* Anthony Grafton, *The Footnote: A Curious History* (Harvard Univ., 1997).

Further reading:

* Gianna Pomata and Nancy Siraisi, Introduction, in Pomata and Siraisi, *Historia: Empiricism and Erudition in Early Modern Europe* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2005) pp. 1-38.

Week 3. February 8.

Competing Models in European Historiography: From “Ranke vs Burckhardt” to *Les Annales*.

* Felix Gilbert, *History: Politics or Culture? Reflections on Ranke and Burckhardt* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1990).

* Peter Burke, *The French Historical Revolution: The Annales School 1929-89* (Stanford, CA: Stanford Univ. Press, 1990) (still the best overview).

* Georg Iggers, *Historiography in the Twentieth Century: From Scientific Objectivity to the Postmodern Challenge* (Wesleyan University Press, 1997), chapters 3-4, pp. 36-50:

Ch. 3: Economic and Social History in Germany: The Beginnings of Historical Sociology.

Ch. 4: American Traditions of Social History.

Further readings:

Lionel Gossman, *Basel in the Age of Burckhardt: A Study in Unseasonable Ideas* (Chicago: Univ. Of Chicago Press, 2000) chapters 10-13, pp. 201-410 (excellent contextualization of Burckhardt’s work).

Jacques Le Goff and Pierre Nora, eds., *Faire de l’histoire*, 3 vols. (Paris: Gallimard, 1974): the best *Annales* anthology, partly transl. as *Constructing the Past* (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1985).

Week 4. February 15.

Social History and Cultural History: the 1970s and ‘80s.

* *The Essential E. P. Thompson*, ed. Dorothy Thompson (New York: New Press, 2001).

Part 1: from *The Making of the English Working Class* (1966), pp. 1-72.

Part 4: "History from Below" and "Agenda for Radical History", pp. 481-96.

* Natalie Davis, "Anthropology and History in the 1980s: The Possibilities of the Past", in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 12, 2, 1981, pp. 267-75.

* Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description: Toward an Interpretive Theory of Culture", In C. Geertz, *Local Knowledge: Further Essays in Interpretive Anthropology* (New York: Basic Books, 1983), pp. 1-30.

* Carlo Ginzburg, "Clues: Roots of an Evidential Paradigm" in C. Ginzburg, *Clues, Myths and the Historical Method*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1989) pp. 96-125.

Further reading:

Carlo Ginzburg, *The Cheese and the Worms. The Cosmos of a Seventeenth-Century Miller*, London: Routledge, 1980, Introduction, pp. xiii-xxvi.

Week 5. February 22

Intellectual History and the History of Ideas: Three Classics.

* Arthur Lovejoy, *The Great Chain of Being; a study of the history of an idea* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1933), chapters 1-3, pp. 7-98 and chapter 9, pp. 315-34.

* Ludwik Fleck, *Genesis and Development of a Scientific Fact* (originally pub. 1935) (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1979).

* Frances Yates, *Giordano Bruno and the Hermetic Tradition* (originally published 1964: Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1990) chapters 1, 8, 11-14, pp. 1-19, 144-156, 190-274

Week 6 March 1:

Intellectual History and the History of Science: from Bachelard (via Canguilhem) to Foucault.

* Cristina Chimisso, *Writing the History of the Mind. Philosophy and Science in France 1900 to 1960s*, (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2008).

* Georges Canguilhem, *The Normal and the Pathological*, translated by Carolyn R. Fawcett in collaboration with Robert S. Cohen (New York: Zone Books, 1989):

“Introduction” by Michel Foucault, 7-24, and “A Critical Examination of Certain Concepts: The Normal, Anomaly, and Disease; The Normal and the Experimental,” pp. 115-124.

* Michel Foucault, “The Political Technology of Individuals,” in *Essential Works of Foucault* (New York: New Press, 2000): pp. 403-417.

Further Reading:

Jan Goldstein, ed., *Foucault and the Writing of History* (Cambridge, Mass: 1994). (on Foucault’s impact on contemporary historiography).

Week 7, March 8:

The Linguistic Turn, Postmodernism, and the Crisis of Objectivity.

[N. B. : March 8 is the research projects deadline. Please submit an outline of your project with title, preliminary bibliography and 2-page description]

* Georg Iggers, *Historiography in the Twentieth Century: From Scientific Objectivity to the Postmodern Challenge* (Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 1997), chapter 10: The Linguistic Turn: the End of History as a Scholarly Discipline?, pp. 118-33.

* Hayden White, *Metahistory: The Historical Imagination in Nineteenth-Century Europe* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ Press, 1975). Introduction, chapter 1 and chapter 6, pp. 1-80, 230-264.

[read also the review by A. Momigliano, “The Rhetoric of History and the History of Rhetoric: on Hayden White’s Tropes”, in *Comparative Criticism: A Yearbook*, 3, 1981, pp. 259-68].

* Peter Novick, *That Noble Dream: The “Objectivity Question” and the American Historical Profession* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988), Part 4: Objectivity in crisis, pp. 415-629.[read also the *AHR* Forum on Novick, *The American Historical Review* 96, 3, 1991, pp. 665-708.]

Further Reading:

“Postmodernist Historiography and Its Critics” in Robert M. Burns, ed. *Historiography: Critical Concepts in Historical Studies* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2006), pp. 377-467.

Week 8 March 15: Spring Vacation

Week 9 March 22:**The New Cultural History and Microhistory.**

* Peter Burke, *What is Cultural History?* (Cambridge: Polity, 2004).

* Carlo Ginzburg, "Microhistory: two or three things that I know about it" in Robert M. Burns, ed. *Historiography: Critical Concepts in Historical Studies* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2006), pp. 183-206.

* "The New Cultural History", in Robert M. Burns, ed. *Historiography: Critical Concepts in Historical Studies* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2006), pp. 15-100.

Further Readings:

* Siegfried Kracauer, *History. The Last Things Before the Last*, (Princeton: Wiener, 1995, originally pub. 1969) chapter 5, "The Structure of the Historical Universe", pp. 104-138 (very useful to understand microhistory).

* Carolyn Steedman, *Dust*, Manchester: Manchester Univ. Press, 2002.

Week 10, March 29:**Constructivism, Science Studies, and the History of Science.**

* Jan Golinski, *Making Natural Knowledge: Constructivism and the History of Science*, (Cambridge: Cambridge Univ. Press, 2005, 2nd ed.

* Ian Hacking, *The Social Construction of What?* (Cambridge, Mass: Harvard Univ. Press, 1999) chapters 1, 3, 4., pp. 1-35, 63-124.

* Bruno Latour, "Why has critique run out of steam? From matters of fact to matters of concern", *Critical Inquiry*, 30, Winter 2004, pp. 225-248.

* Lorraine Daston, "Science Studies and the History of Science", in *Critical Inquiry*, Summer 2009, pp. 798-813.

Week 11, April 5:**A New History of Science: Historicizing Truth and Objectivity.**

* Steven Shapin, *A Social History of Truth: Civility and Science in Seventeenth-Century England* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1994), chapters 3, 5, 6, 8, pp. 65-125; 193-309; 355-408.

[Read also the review by Anita Guerrini, "The Truth about Truth" in *Early Science and Medicine*, 3, 1 (1998), pp. 66-74]

* Lorraine Daston and Peter Galison, *Objectivity* (New York: Zone Books, 2007) Chapters 1, 2, 3, pp. 11-190.

Further Readings:

John Pickstone, *Ways of Knowing: A New History of Science, Technology and Medicine* (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2000).

Barry Barnes, David Bloor, and John Henry, *Scientific Knowledge: A Sociological Analysis* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996).

Andrew Pickering, *The Mangle of Practice. Time, Agency and Science*, Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1995, chapter 1, pp. 1-36, chapter 6, pp. 179-212.

Week 12, April 12:

The Intellectual History of Medicine: Comparing Classic and New Approaches.

* "Traditions" in Frank Huisman and John Harley Warner, eds., *Locating Medical History: The Stories and Their Meanings* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), pp. 33-166.

* Owsei Temkin, *The Double Face of Janus* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1977) Part II, "The Historical Approach to Medicine", pp. 41-136; "Metaphors of Human Biology", pp. 271-283; "The Scientific Approach to Disease: Specific Entity and Individual Sickness," pp. 441-455.

*Caroline Bynum's "Why so Much Fuss About the Body: A Medievalist's Perspective" *Critical Inquiry* 1995: 1-33.

* Shigehisa Kuriyama, *The Expressiveness of the Body and the Divergence of Greek and Chinese Medicine* (New York: Zone Books, 1999).

[Read also the review by Paul Unschuld in *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, 75.2, 2001, pp. 299-301.

* Charlotte Furth, *A Flourishing Yin: Gender in China's Medical History 960-1665*, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999, Introduction, chapter 1, pp.1-58.

Week 13, April 19:**The Social and Cultural History of Medicine: Comparing Classic and New Approaches.**

* Roy Porter, "The Patient's View: Doing Medical History from Below", in *Theory and Society*, 14, 1985, pp. 167-174.

* Charles Rosenberg, "Framing Disease: Illness, Society and History", introduction to *Framing Disease: Studies in Cultural History*, ed. Charles Rosenberg and Janet Golden (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers Univ. Press, 1992), pp. xiii-xxvi.

* Adrian Wilson, "On the History of Disease Concepts: The Case of Pleurisy", in *History of Science*, 38 (2000), pp. 271-318.

* Susan M. Reverby and David Rosner, "'Beyond the Great Doctors' Revisited: A Generation of the 'New' Social History of Medicine," in *Locating Medical History: The Stories and Their Meanings* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), pp. 167-193.

* Ludmilla Jordanova, "The Social Construction of Medical Knowledge," in Frank Huisman and John Harley Warner, eds., *Locating Medical History: The Stories and Their Meanings* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), pp. 338-363.

Week 14 April 28:**Final Discussion: Telling the Truth about History.**

* Joyce Appleby, Hunt, Jacob, *Telling the Truth About History* (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1994). .